

### Update to Power Wheelchair Coding Announcement

New HCPCS codes for power wheelchairs were posted on this website on February 3, 2005. These new codes must be used for all Medicare claims for power wheelchairs furnished on or after January 1, 2006. As previously announced, these codes include performance standards and every power wheelchair product must be tested at one of approximately 30-35 RESNA certified testing facilities worldwide. CMS understands that 4 or 5 manufacturers may have the capabilities to self-test their wheelchairs according to ANSI/RESNA standards. Manufacturers with internal testing facilities that meet the ANSI/RESNA standards may perform a self-test on their power wheelchairs. Senior management attestation to the qualifications of the internal testing facility will be required with submission of the testing results. Manufacturers should note that the results are subject to validation by the SADMERC at any time. By no later than September 1, 2005, manufacturers must submit test results along with a completed application for coding verification to the Statistical Analysis Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier (SADMERC). The application for coding verification is posted on the SADMERC website at:

[www.palmettogba.com](http://www.palmettogba.com)

Click on the SADMERC name on the right side of the page. When the home page comes up, click on: HCPCS Coding Verification Reviews.

SADMERC analysts will review the documentation and determine the appropriate code placement for each product.

It is CMS' goal to have sufficient information on the full range of products by September 1, 2005, to be able to establish fee schedule amounts for the new HCPCS code by January 1, 2006. If sufficient information is not available to establish a fee schedule amount for a code, payment may be made on the basis of individual consideration of each claim until the necessary information is obtained. Medicare will not pay for products under the old codes after January 1, 2006, and will not pay for products under the new codes that have not been tested and have not received a coding verification from the SADMERC.

Additional information on the new power codes, testing requirements, code verification process, and frequently asked questions are available on the SADMERC website. Please note that several technical corrections in the code descriptions were identified after the codes were posted on February 3, 2005. Detailed information regarding these corrections is provided on the SADMERC website listed above.